

## EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

### EXTENDING COUNTERTERRORISM AUTHORITIES

SPEECH OF

**HON. BETTY McCOLLUM**

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, February 8, 2011*

Ms. McCOLLUM. Mr. Speaker, I firmly believe that we can fight terrorism and keep our communities safe without sacrificing the rights and liberties that generations of Americans have fought so hard to secure. H.R. 514 fails this critical test, and I will vote to oppose it.

Without a single hearing, committee vote, or even the opportunity to offer amendments, this legislation extends provisions that give the Federal Government sweeping authority to spy on U.S. citizens. One such provision allows the government to obtain “any tangible thing” in its anti-terrorism investigation—including library or bookstore records—regardless of its relevance to the case. Another provision allows federal law enforcement to obtain wiretaps without being required to identify the person, building, or business being spied upon to a secret court. During the Bush Administration, the Justice Department used this authority to illegally wiretap American citizens. Evidence of past abuses demand that the Patriot Act be reformed with stricter oversight and better safeguards to ensure security does not come at the cost of our Constitutional freedoms.

The threat of terrorism is real and persistent. My first priority as a Member of Congress is to keep America safe. Be assured I will continue working with President Obama and my colleagues in Congress to ensure that all levels of law enforcement have the tools and flexibility they require.

### HONORING RONALD AND DORIS RAMSEY

**HON. HENRY C. “HANK” JOHNSON, JR.**

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, February 10, 2011*

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I submit the following:

Whereas, Ronald and Doris Ramsey are celebrating twenty-five years (25) in marriage today in Lithonia, Georgia; and

Whereas, on May 10, 1985 because of their union then, our community today has been blessed with a family that has enhanced our district with a stellar academy for educating our youth, Kingdom Kare Academy which was co-founded by Ronald and Doris Ramsey, wherein Doris Ramsey has utilized her background in business and education to keep the academy moving forward and Ronald Ramsey has given of himself as an attorney, judge and as a legislator in the Georgia Senate, they both are instruments in our community that uplifts the spiritual, physical, economic and mental welfare of our citizens; and

Whereas, this remarkable and tenacious man of God and this phenomenal and virtuous Proverbs 31 woman have given hope to the hopeless, fed the hungry and are beacons of light to those in need, they both have been blessed with two wonderful children, Ronald Ramsey, II and Christyn Ramsey both of whom are honor students that are now enjoying college life; and

Whereas, Ronald and Doris Ramsey are distinguished citizens of our district, they are spiritual warriors, persons of compassion, fearless leaders and servants to all, but most of all visionaries who have shared not only with their family, but with our District their passion to improve the lives of others; and

Whereas, the U.S. Representative of the Fourth District of Georgia has set aside this day to honor and recognize Ronald and Doris Ramsey as they celebrate their Silver Anniversary, twenty-five (25) years in marital bliss;

Now Therefore, I, HENRY C. “HANK” JOHNSON, Jr. do hereby proclaim May 10, 2010 and May 29, 2010 as Ronald and Doris Ramsey Day in the 4th Congressional District.

Proclaimed, This 10th day of May, 2010.

### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. SCOTT GARRETT**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, February 10, 2011*

Mr. GARRETT. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 26, due to an unexpected family health emergency, I was unable to make rollcall No. 26. Had I been present, I would have voted “yea.”

### STATEMENT SUPPORTING SELF-GOVERNMENT FOR THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

**HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, February 10, 2011*

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I stand before you today to voice my unequivocal support of the right of the 600,000 residents of the District of Columbia to be self-governed. There is no reason on Earth that these American citizens must take orders from the federal government on how best to use locally-collected tax dollars. The federal government already dictates to them how they must use their federal taxes. Now this body wants to deny them the freedom to decide what to do with their local taxes.

We have heard a lot of talk in recent days about how much we as Americans cherish our freedom and liberty. Yet, there are those among us who believe that freedom and liberty ends for residents of the District of Columbia when they make decisions contrary to their wishes and beliefs. The District of Columbia, like any other local jurisdiction, should

have the right to pass its own laws and spend its own local-taxpayer raised funds without congressional interference.

I am certain most of you would resist federal interference in the local affairs of your cities and counties. Whether it involves matters of health, safety or the education of children in your Districts—these are decisions best left to the people who must live or die with their choices.

Who are we in this body to ram our beliefs and ideology down the throats of others? I understand why my colleague Congresswoman ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON and the people of the District of Columbia are angry and upset. I urge you to let the people of the District of Columbia decide what to do with their tax dollars.

If liberty and self-governance is available for some Americans, then it should be given to all Americans.

### CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF MRS. BERNICE CLEVELAND

**HON. RODNEY ALEXANDER**

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, February 10, 2011*

Mr. ALEXANDER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in celebration of the life and achievements of Mrs. Bernice Cleveland, who passed away on January 6, 2011 in Minden, La.

Mrs. Cleveland was a passionate humanitarian who dedicated 40 years of service to children and families in the Boyce and Lena areas. For decades, she worked for the Louisiana Head Start Program through the Bo Peep Head Start Center in Boyce, La., teaching the pre-school age group. Her daughter, Sheila Joyce Bryant, says “She had a passion for children and believed you must have patience in dealing with the little ones.”

For her devotion to Head Start, Mrs. Cleveland received numerous awards and accolades, such as Excellence in Teaching, Excellence in Attendance, and in August of 2005, she was recognized with the 40 Years of Service Award by the Cenla Community Action Committee, Inc.—Louisiana Head Start Program.

Mrs. Cleveland had two brothers, Joseph Jones, Jr. and Nathaniel Jones, Sr., and one sister, Miss Etta Mae Jones, who preceded her in death. She leaves behind her adoring husband, James “Ted” Floyd Cleveland, her loving daughter, Sheila, and two granddaughters, Rachel Joyce Bryant and Bathsheba Felice Bryant.

Upon her marriage in 1953, Mrs. Cleveland joined her mother-in-law, the late Cora Beatrice Cleveland, and united with Good Hope Missionary Baptist Church where she faithfully served for 50 years. In May 2009, she received a Christian Service Award by the Louisiana Baptist State Convention, and since 1956, she has been a member of the Queen Esther Household of Ruth, No. 2853. She was

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